

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: William F. Sherry, A.A.E.
Robert L. Davis

**SUBJECT: AIRPORT SECURITY FOR
GATES AND ROADWAYS**

DATE: May 18, 2005

Approved /s/

Date 05/26/05

BACKGROUND

This memo serves as response to the issues raised in the Mayor's Budget Message of March 16, 2005, Section 2p, which states "Review the current threat-level response plan that evaluates the security needs for Airport gates and roadways. An evaluation of training needs should be included for Airport staff to respond to code red and orange response levels."

ANALYSIS

The Airport and Police Departments have reviewed current staffing, training, procedures, funding and reserves and have determined that the necessary resources are available and ready to meet current security threat levels. The reduction to earmarked funding proposed in the 2005-2006 Operating Budget is not anticipated to change current operations or training plans, and general operating reserves are available in the Airport Maintenance and Operation Fund to address the need for immediate increases to security staffing levels if deemed necessary in 2005-2006. What follows is a brief description that outlines security staffing, plans and training associated with Red and Orange response levels.

In response to security directives that took place after 9-11, Airport Operations in conjunction with the San José Police Department – Airport Division (SJPD-AD), and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) created an Aviation Security Contingency Plan. Mineta San José International Airport's Aviation Security Contingency Plan received federal approval in 2004. The plan documents specific security procedures for implementation should the Homeland Security Advisory System Threat Level rise to Orange or Red.

When the Department of Homeland Security issues Threat Level changes, the Airport Security Coordinator (ASC) is the first Airport contact. An Airport Deputy Director is designated as the ASC and is the primary and immediate contact for all Airport security-related activities and is available 24 hours per day. The approved Level Orange and Red procedures and requirements

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are stored in a location available to the ASC, the alternate ASC and Airport Manager on Duty (MOD). The ASC acts as the liaison between the SJPD-AD Captain and Lieutenant, TSA and Airport Operations staff as the approved procedures are implemented with the raised threats levels.

The Airport ASC, alternative ASC and the MODs all provide training to Airport staff on an ongoing basis for each Threat Level, as well as provides any changes necessary to procedures or new security concerns. SJPD-AD Command staff integrates Threat Level training into the new officer training for officers assigned to the Airport. An evaluation of training processes and needs is conducted annually during TSA mandated "tabletop" exercises. The tabletop exercises also serve to evaluate and enhance communications between Airport Operations and SJPD-AD staff.

/s/

William F. Sherry, A.A.E.
Director of Aviation

/s/

Robert L. Davis
Chief of Police